

Opinion of the Week: At Home and Abroad

THE POWERS HEARING

At long last, the Central Intelligence Agency has concluded that Francis Gary Powers' conduct in the U-2 incident actually was beyond reproach.

The same cannot be said for the C. I. A. Only now, does the agency disclose the instructions issued to guide Powers and his colleagues in case of capture.

*** What a different light this casts upon Powers, who throughout the period of C. I. A. silence was subjected to continuing accusations of cowardice and treason—NEWARK NEWS.

In retrospect many errors of judgment were committed. *** But that is water over the dam. It is good to have Mr. Powers home, good to know that his name is cleared and somewhat comforting to hope that we may have learned some useful lessons from this experience.—PROVIDENCE JOURNAL.

His [Powers'] own words and the findings of the C. I. A. and Presidential Board put to shame those who have been insinuating, on the basis of rumor or insufficient information, that he had been remiss both in duties and character. He was remiss in neither. *** Mr. Powers has been affirmed in his status as a brave American. — LOS ANGELES HERALD-EXAMINER.

Absolute heroes and absolute cowards are at opposite ends of the human scale and they are always in rather short supply. Most men live their lives somewhere between the ends, and that is where Powers should be placed. He did about what he was told and paid to do, no more and no less, no hero, no bum, just an average man.—DETROIT NEWS.